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THE LATE EDITOR OF THE SEWANEE REVIEW

Dr. John Bell Henneman, whose name appears with the title of Editor upon the cover of this issue of the REVIEW, as it has appeared upon all previous issues since the eighth volume, died suddenly in Richmond, Virginia, on the 26th of last November. His work upon the REVIEW continued up to the day of his leaving Sewanee, and the present issue as it now comes from the press, is substantially in accordance with his arrangements.

Dr. Henneman's official connection with the REVIEW began with the publication of the eighth volume in January, 1901, soon after he came to Sewanee to succeed his long-time friend and college classmate, Professor Trent, in the chair of English Language and Literature in the University of the South. For the next four years Professor B. J. Ramage, Ph.D., was associated with him in the editorship. From the twelfth volume to the present issue, Dr. Henneman was solely responsible for the policy of the REVIEW and its contents. It must not, however, be inferred that his coming to the editorship was by any means sudden or that his acquaintance with the REVIEW began after he had come to Sewanee. He knew the REVIEW from its beginning and appreciated the peculiar field it was destined to occupy among the literary periodicals of the country. Professor Trent, his predecessor in the editorial chair as in the professorial chair, was his warm friend since the days spent together at the University of Virginia, where both took the Master's degree in 1884; and while Dr. Henneman was engaged in educational work in other institutions he regarded the SEWANEE REVIEW as something representing, not the life of a single university, but as of peculiar value to the life and literature of the South. To each of the first five volumes he made contributions, probably more in number than those of any other single contributor outside of Sewanee. The character of these contributions is significant as shown by their titles: "Historical Studies in the South since the War," written while he was Professor of English and History in Hampden-Sidney, and con-

tributed to the first volume, showed a broad outlook and a firm grasp of his subject, two marked characteristics of all his literary work; "The Study of English in the South," and "The Modern Spirit of Literature," contributed to the second volume, were notable papers and of permanent value; "The Work of a Southern Scholar," contributed to the third volume, was a scholarly and appreciative review of four of Woodrow Wilson's books; a paper on Maurus Jokai, entitled "The Nestor of Hungarian Letters," in review of Jokai's autobiographical novel, "Eyes Like the Sea," and a paper on "Tennessee History by Tennesseans," in which were reviewed the books which had then recently appeared in connection with the celebration of the Centennial of the State, were his contributions to the fourth volume. To the fifth volume he contributed a paper on "The Man Shakespeare: His Growth as an Artist." It was in review of Dowden's "Introduction to Shakespeare," Barrett Wendell's "William Shakespeare: A Study of Elizabethan Literature," and William J. Rolfe's "Shakespeare, the Boy," and at the same time an earnest of Dr. Henneman's subsequent work as lecturer, editor and expositor of Shakespearean Literature, and not to be dissociated from his two papers on "Shakespeare in Recent Times," contributed to the last volume of the REVIEW he was destined to edit. All these papers showed the deep sympathy of the young professor (he was but thirty-two when the last of the above named papers was written), with the REVIEW in which he saw the representative, in the highest and widest sense, of the best and most recent life and thought and culture of the South and of the whole country. And his acceptance of the Chair of English Language and Literature in the University of the South, when offered him, was induced by the fact that he would thereby be brought into closer relations with the REVIEW. He was no novice, therefore, when he passed to the editorial chair. He was probably as familiar with the ideals set for the REVIEW as any one in the country, and was already trained to fulfill the task of the editor in maintaining those ideals.

It would be difficult now to say in what respect his genius for the conduct of the REVIEW was most clearly manifested. Was

it his broad and accurate scholarship which met all the many demands made upon it in an editorial position of that kind? Was it the quick discernment of what was excellent, not only to his taste, but to the taste of the cultivated public which the REVIEW was to serve? Was it his ability to command the class of articles which the REVIEW has been privileged to present to its readers, which otherwise would have been impossible? Was it the exquisite courtesy which made every contributor feel a personal interest in the REVIEW? Certain it is that Dr. Henneman combined all these qualities and by this combination succeeded in the most difficult task of maintaining the policy of the founders of the REVIEW.

The field of Dr. Henneman's activities was a broad one and his interests were varied, though all related to the general subject of education; and the REVIEW would have owed this tribute to his life, had he been in no way connected with this periodical, even as he was at the pains to secure papers upon McIver, and Bishop Dudley and others who have left their impress upon the educational life of the South. And the REVIEW is privileged to print the address of the Reverend Dr. DuBose, delivered at the University Chapel on the Sunday morning following Dr. Henneman's death. This address is of Dr. Henneman, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Professor of English Language and Literature, who was chiefly known to members of the community of Sewanee and to the host of students, past and present, who have been under his instruction and influence for the past eight years.

There remains yet to be said something of Dr. Henneman, the Educator, in the highest sense of that term, the man who has left a clear and definite impress upon the educational life of the South. To him perhaps as much as to any other man is due the advancement of the educational standards of the Southern schools and colleges, during the past few years. There is a dramatic, as well as a pathetic interest, given to what was probably the last public act of his life, the reading of a paper before the Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Southern States, at the fourteenth annual meeting held in Chattanooga, November 5, 1908. The title of the paper was

"The South's Opportunity in Education: The Problem of the Application of Standards."¹ The subject was one dear to his heart and one that had occupied much of his time and attention during the last years of his life. To hear the paper and participate in the discussion which it was expected would follow, Dr. Pritchett of the Carnegie Foundation was present. It was the final word upon the subject of entrance requirements for colleges. It is Dr. Henneman's last message to his colleagues and co-laborers in the broad field of Southern education. He returned to Sewanee and a few days later was taken ill. It was still hoped that a few weeks with his family physician in Richmond would restore him to health. He was in his forty-fifth year and it was felt that there should be, in all human probability, at least twenty years more of service to be expected from him in the various fields in which his activities had proved their inestimable value. But the career cut short thus early and suddenly was not without its record of noble achievement for the cause of education, and for literature, as has been already recognized, and as will be increasingly apparent as the years go on.

DR. JOHN BELL HENNEMAN

I am called upon by the Vice-Chancellor to give some expression here this morning to his and my and, as far as possible, your sense of the calamity that has befallen this University and this community. I say, "as far as possible your" — for you are many, and I am not so near as once I was, to the heart-beats of Sewanee; my fingers are not so directly upon its pulse. Besides, the shock of our dear Dr. Henneman's death is so sudden and unexpected, I was so utterly unprepared for it, that I feel myself incompetent as yet to speak at all; a single day has been all too short for any just appraisal of the damage we have sustained.

¹ Through the kindness of the Secretary of the Association, the REVIEW is permitted to present this paper in this issue.

However, I feel sufficiently assured that, whatever be the exact nature or the real extent of it, we are as one man in knowing that a great loss has fallen upon us all. Measuring it for myself, I confess it seems to me at this moment well-nigh irreparable. I know that in fact nothing in this world is irreparable, that the breaches are all filled, and the rents mended, and that all that ought to be will continue to be, and will, in time, go on whole and alive as before. But we never can help feeling that matters are peculiar and exceptional with us here at Sewanee, and my own very definite feeling is that there is something in our unique past and present—something of which I wish specially now to speak—which, when lost, it becomes harder and harder for any future to replace or repair.

Grief is apt to be a selfish thing; I am quite aware that it is all of our own loss and sorrow that we are now thinking. But there is a good side even to that. How better can we measure the value he *was* to us than by the loss he *is* to us? How better can we measure himself, and express our appreciation of what he was or our gratitude for what he was, than by letting ourselves feel to the full all that his life was, all that his death is, to ourselves? Be assured, dear brethren and friends of Sewanee, that I should not be here to-day for the performance of a perfunctory task; I should not be here to-day if I did not feel that this was an occasion of very real loss and sorrow to this dear place; and this, to me, much more than most dear—this most significant, important, essential and necessary of Universities.

I shall dwell then upon what was our gain and is now our very serious loss. And you will pardon me, if I shall seem to dwell upon it unduly from one, and my own, point of view. I shall pass briefly over what is the more natural and general, and will probably be your own immediate point of view—Dr. Henneman's loss to us as a teacher, as professor of our most important chair, as Dean of our central Faculty. I do this from no want of appreciation of that point of view, but for two reasons. In the first place it is your own point of view, and from it you see and know more than I can tell you. In the second place, although it will certainly be a delicate and difficult

matter to fill the vacant place or places — Professor of English, Dean of the Academic Faculty, Editor of the SEWANEE REVIEW — as Dr. Henneman filled them, and was coming more and more efficiently to fill them, yet it was not there so much as elsewhere that his loss has seemed to me irreparable.

From the outside, however, I may say this much upon that more apparent point. Dr. Henneman was unquestionably first of all, and in a very high sense a teacher. It was conscientiously and faithfully his business, and he allowed nothing else to stand before that with him, or in any way to interfere with or impair the efficiency of that. A teacher is under no obligation to be a mere teacher, or only a teacher. He may, and ought to pursue his own life without and far beyond the possible limits of his actual teaching. He may think of and be interested in other things, and may seek and acquire fame and employment and emolument otherwise than through the immediate business for and in which he is engaged. But there is a manifest danger and temptation in it. How that danger ought to be avoided may be seen by observing how Dr. Henneman avoided it.

I suppose there is no place where, more than at Sewanee, there is need that professors who have the ability to do so, shall supplement the small salaries, ever growing smaller through the increasing cost of living. A certain publishing house wanted some literary work done, and Dr. Henneman was named to them as a scholar well qualified to do it. But no, they said, they knew Dr. Henneman was too much of a teacher to subordinate his teaching to anything else. They wanted a man who would give his first and chief attention to their work; and they could find such men. What I would say, in a word, is that Dr. Henneman, having been engaged for, and having given himself to, the business of this University, gave his whole, or if not literally his whole, yet at least his first and best self to the discharge of that business. We all know how he magnified the business of teaching in general, and that of Sewanee in particular; how he magnified not only all our teaching here, but that of his own chair in particular; how intent and insistent he was to be ever enlarging it, and himself doing always more and more, and never less and less, in it. How his

mind and heart and very life were in the matter of standards and ideals of education! How his pride and conscience and honor were involved in the long battle to bring Sewanee not only up to but above the general level of educational requirements! His heart and his happiness were where his first duty lay, and in the singleness of his devotion to it he gladly suffered loss not only of additional means, where it was sorely needed, but of outside reputation and of probable promotion elsewhere.

I should like to dwell more upon such matters as these; but I am anxious to impress upon you my own impression of the yet larger and higher Dr. Henneman. And I can only raise you to that conception by going back a little to the man. We all knew Dr. Henneman to be a man of very intense feeling—sometimes, though less and less so of late, of perfervid and excessive feeling. To the cooler, perhaps more indifferent temperament of some of us, there was at times something incomprehensible, something that suggested distrust of sound judgment on his part, in the extreme seriousness with which he took things, in the deep personal feeling with which he invested common questions. I do not deny that he had the faults and drawbacks of that temperament, but I have come of late to interpret the matter very differently. All that sensitiveness, impulsiveness, and emotionalism was only the commotion upon the surface of a deep and rich nature. Things were very real, very deep, and very high to Dr. Henneman; he found it hard to be cool, impossible in any matter to be indifferent.

It is in keeping with this to say that Dr. Henneman was a naturally, necessarily, profoundly religious man, though he was not always so to outward appearance. A man of his nature could not be fundamentally quiet or at rest without religion. He came here not a member of the Church which represents religion among us. No one knew his mind and no one asked it. Sewanee stands for Christianity, but for Christianity in its most catholic and inclusive form. It is our desire to stand for nothing in Christianity which is distinctively or exclusively our own, which does not belong by right to all; in a word, which is sectarian. The sectarianism which we wish most of all to avoid

is our own sectarianism. If we ourselves value, and value rightly, what we sometimes call our own order, our own ritual, our sacraments, creeds, etc.—it is distinctly not as our own that we value them, but on the ground that we believe them not to be our own, but the property, in the truest and largest sense, of the Catholic Church, that is to say, of all believing and baptized Christians, whether they use them or have seen fit to disuse them. If we call ourselves Churchmen, and by no narrower or more divisive name, it is not because we arrogate to ourselves alone that more general designation, but because we would pass by and ignore all human distinctions and sinful divisions, and know ourselves only as members of the one Church of Christ, whose mission and aim is to include all and exclude none. What we have to strive for is to be in this truest sense Christian and catholic, and to trust wholly and only to the truth and reality of our profession to accomplish the results we stand for.

Sewanee in no sense questioned or prescribed Dr. Henne-
man's faith, and it was only in his own time and way that he
manifested the conformity of which I am going to speak. I
should not speak at all of so personal and sacred a matter, but
for a fact which came to me in these latter years as a sort of
revelation or discovery concerning him. It was that somehow,
I suppose gradually and perhaps unconsciously, Dr. Henne-
man had come to be, beyond us all, the embodiment of the true
idea and spirit of Sewanee. In the first place, besides being, as
I have said, a deeply religious man, he became—especially in
his relation to, and his part in this University—the true Church-
man of the type I have described. He fully conceived and
heartily entered into the true Christian character of Sewanee;
he absorbed its traditions, imbibed its ideas, and became the
most active representative and champion of its ideals and as-
pirations. He stood not more intensely for its standards of
education than for its ideals of culture and life—of culture for
life, and not mere training for business. He believed that,
while Sewanee ought, in all true and tried respects, to conform
to the type of other and modern universities, least of all ought
it ever to abandon or be unfaithful to its own distinct character

and mission; which was, to prove to the world the possibility, and exhibit to the world the type of a Christian, Catholic, Church University. Dr. Henneman was looking forward to broadening the foundations of Sewanee to cover the area of the entire South. He was consulting for the establishment of a general system of Church education, in the true sense, of which Sewanee was to be only the lofty apex.

These ideas and aspirations are not so new to many of us as they were to Dr. Henneman. But ideas and ideals, in the hard and painful process of actualizing themselves in this world, have to pass through many deaths and resurrections. It was long ago said, that God never bestows a real blessing upon the world but first He passes upon it the sentence of death — sometimes of many deaths. Nothing is worthy to live, that death or deaths are able to destroy. Now deaths and resurrections often endured are a wearing process. I must confess myself to have been well worn out by them, and there are some here now weary and wearing out with waiting. Weary perhaps, but faithful, and so, I trust, to the end. The heroes of faith still die not having received the promises, and still too seeing and greeting them from afar.

As we go out, I have been feeling that there is a new dawn rising, yea, risen upon Sewanee. And among the younger, fresher, unworn—and as I thought, stronger—men who are succeeding us, and upon whom is the further making and shaping of things here, I looked for certain things chiefly to Dr. Henneman. His heart was, I verily believe, most of all in this place, in its true meaning and end and destiny. He seemed among the likeliest of all to remain here, to suffer and to stay. But mostly, as I have said, I believe that he was the truest and the hopefulest exponent of the one thing most needful. The university that is all like other universities can always be spared; it is only a matter of one less. The university that stands for something that is distinctive, if that something is real and of enduring value, cannot be spared, and we can ill spare the men who most stand for it.

Do not suppose that I look upon Dr. Henneman as all whom we had or have to depend upon for the things I hold of most

value. In that case his loss would indeed be irreparable, and I should despair. But I believe that, the greater his loss to us, the more will they that are left, professors and students, rally around Sewanee and see that she suffers no permanent detriment. We have never here been weakened or disheartened by loss or defeat. The wide breach will be closed, and the deep rent mended; and while that is doing, and until it is done, you will endure the loss and patiently abide the recovery.

W. P. DuBOSE.

The University of the South.